

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF SOUTH CAROLINA
COLUMBIA DIVISION**

THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE
CONFERENCE OF THE NAACP,

and

TAIWAN SCOTT, on behalf of himself and all
other similarly situated persons,

Plaintiffs,

v.

HENRY D. MCMASTER, in his official
capacity as Governor of South Carolina;
HARVEY PEELER, in his official capacity as
President of the Senate; LUKE A. RANKIN, in
his official capacity as Chairman of the Senate
Judiciary Committee; JAMES H. LUCAS, in
his official capacity as Speaker of the House of
Representatives; CHRIS MURPHY, in his
official capacity as Chairman of the House of
Representatives Judiciary Committee;
WALLACE H. JORDAN, in his official
capacity as Chairman of the House of
Representatives Elections Law Subcommittee;
HOWARD KNAPP, in his official capacity as
interim Executive Director of the South
Carolina State Election Commission; JOHN
WELLS, JOANNE DAY, CLIFFORD J.
ELDER, LINDA MCCALL, and SCOTT
MOSELEY, in their official capacities as
members of the South Carolina State Election
Commission,

Defendants.

Civil Action No.: 3:21-cv-3302-JMC

**GOVERNOR MCMASTER'S
RESPONSE TO MOTION TO STAY**

Pursuant to the Court's November 4, 2021 Text Order (ECF No. 53), Defendant Henry D. McMaster, in his official capacity as Governor of South Carolina ("Governor McMaster" or "Governor"), hereby responds to the House Defendants' Motion to Stay (ECF No. 51), and refers

to and incorporates by reference his Motion to Dismiss (ECF No. 61) filed contemporaneously herewith. For the reasons set forth in the Motion to Dismiss, Governor McMaster maintains that the Court should dismiss Plaintiffs' Complaint for myriad jurisdictional reasons. However, in the alternative event the Court assures itself of jurisdiction, the Governor agrees that the Court should stay this matter or otherwise abstain pending completion of the redistricting process and the timely apportionment of new congressional and state legislative districts. ECF No. 61, at 19–20; *see, e.g., Grove v. Emison*, 507 U.S. 25, 33 (1993) (“In the reapportionment context, the Court has required federal judges to defer consideration of disputes involving redistricting where the State, through its legislative . . . branch, has begun to address that highly political task itself.”).

Respectfully submitted,

s/Thomas A. Limehouse, Jr.

Thomas A. Limehouse, Jr. (Fed. Bar No. 12148)

Chief Legal Counsel

Wm. Grayson Lambert (Fed. Bar No. 11761)

Senior Legal Counsel

Michael G. Shedd (Fed. Bar No. 13314)

Deputy Legal Counsel

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

South Carolina State House

1100 Gervais Street

Columbia, South Carolina 29201

(803) 734-2100

tlimhouse@governor.sc.gov

glambert@governor.sc.gov

mshedd@governor.sc.gov

Christopher E. Mills (Fed. Bar No. 13432)

SPERO LAW LLC

557 East Bay Street #22251

Charleston, South Carolina 29413

(843) 606-0640

cmills@spero.law

Counsel for Governor McMaster

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Columbia, South Carolina